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25X1A

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16 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Assistant Director, OSA-DD/R

SUBJECT : Interim Status Report on DC Generator

1. In a telephone conversation last night with [] 25X1A
he reported on the results of current efforts at Lockheed to solve our
present difficulties with the Lear Siegler 400 AMP generator.

25X1A Brushes: From technical discussions with [] from National
Carbon, a variation in the hardness of carbon brushes is to be expected.
However, there is no such thing as "soft" carbon for generator brushes
25X1A in our equipment. The breakdown of the brushes is caused from some
other source. [] are to discuss this point further
with Lear Siegler and are also to look again into solvents and other
compounds used at overhaul in finishing or cleaning the commutator.
During overhaul when new brushes are fitted to the commutator, the
generator is run on the bench for 3 to 4 hours to "set-up" the brushes.
This procedure allows for the brushes to deposit a slight film on the
commutator, much like the oil film set up on the cylinder walls of your
car's engine, and thereby reduces friction and provides for a more
efficient operation.

25X1A Bearings: [] has advised Lear Siegler that only Fafnir
bearings are to be used in generators supplied to Lockheed. MRC and
New Departure bearings will not be used in the U-2 generators.

Other: Lear Siegler has flown one of our generators back to their
Cleveland division for environmental tests using Fafnir bearings. Results
of this test should be available early part of next week.

Nothing new to report on grease and seals, although these
items are receiving careful attention in the many tests now being run at
Lockheed, Bendix, and Lear Siegler.

2. As a side note, I wish to confirm what I reported to you on
15 March about the delivery of Article 356 from IRAN/J-75 conversion and
with the aerial refueling system. The production schedule on 356 is
current, and it is anticipated then, that Article 356 will join the
Edwards Detachment 8 April 1963.

SIGNED

25X1A

Chief, Materiel Division
OSA-DD/R

MD/OSA-DD/R [] :ed

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Approved For Release 2003/01/24 : CIA-RDP63-00313A000500050153-3

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